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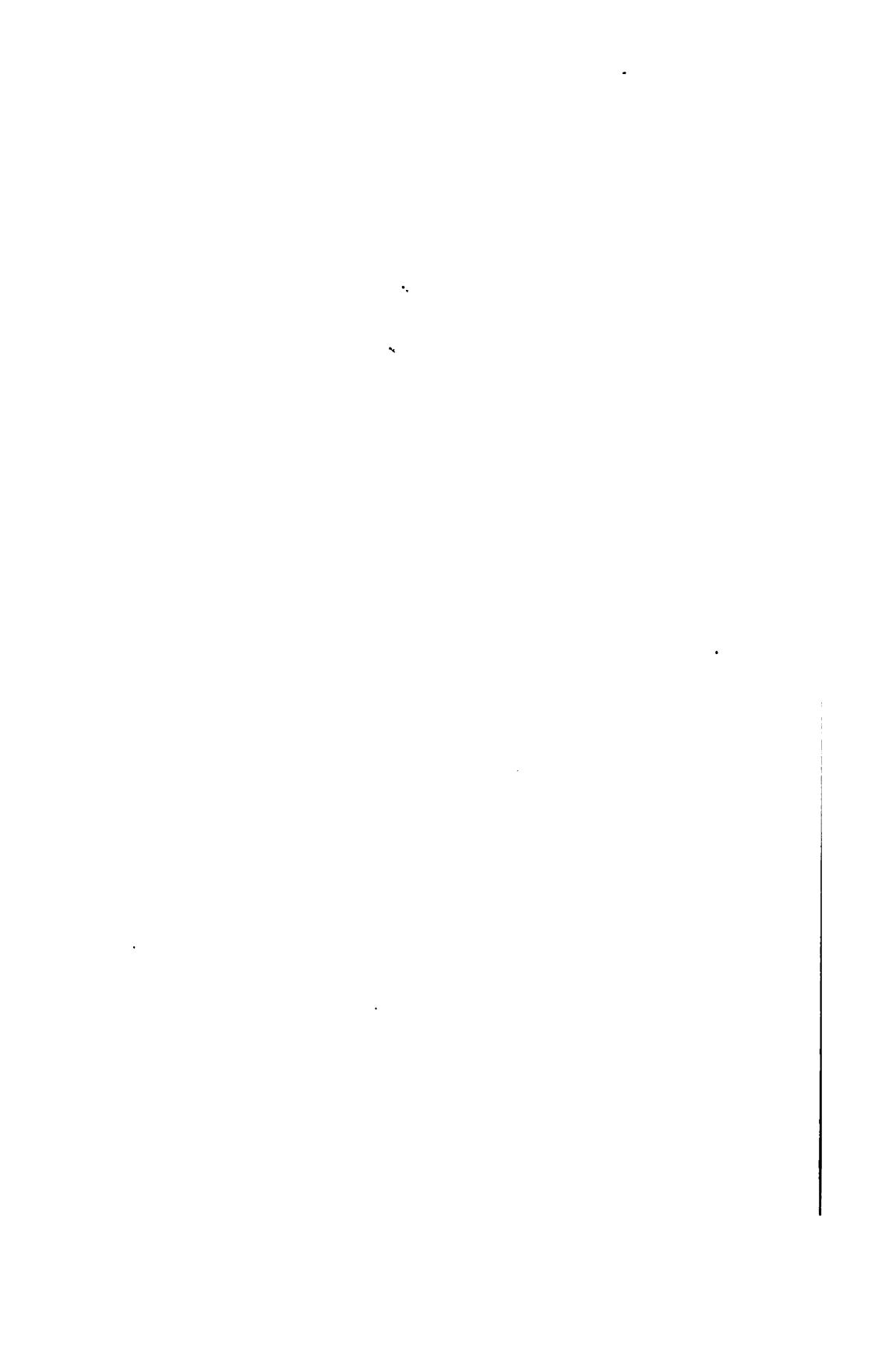
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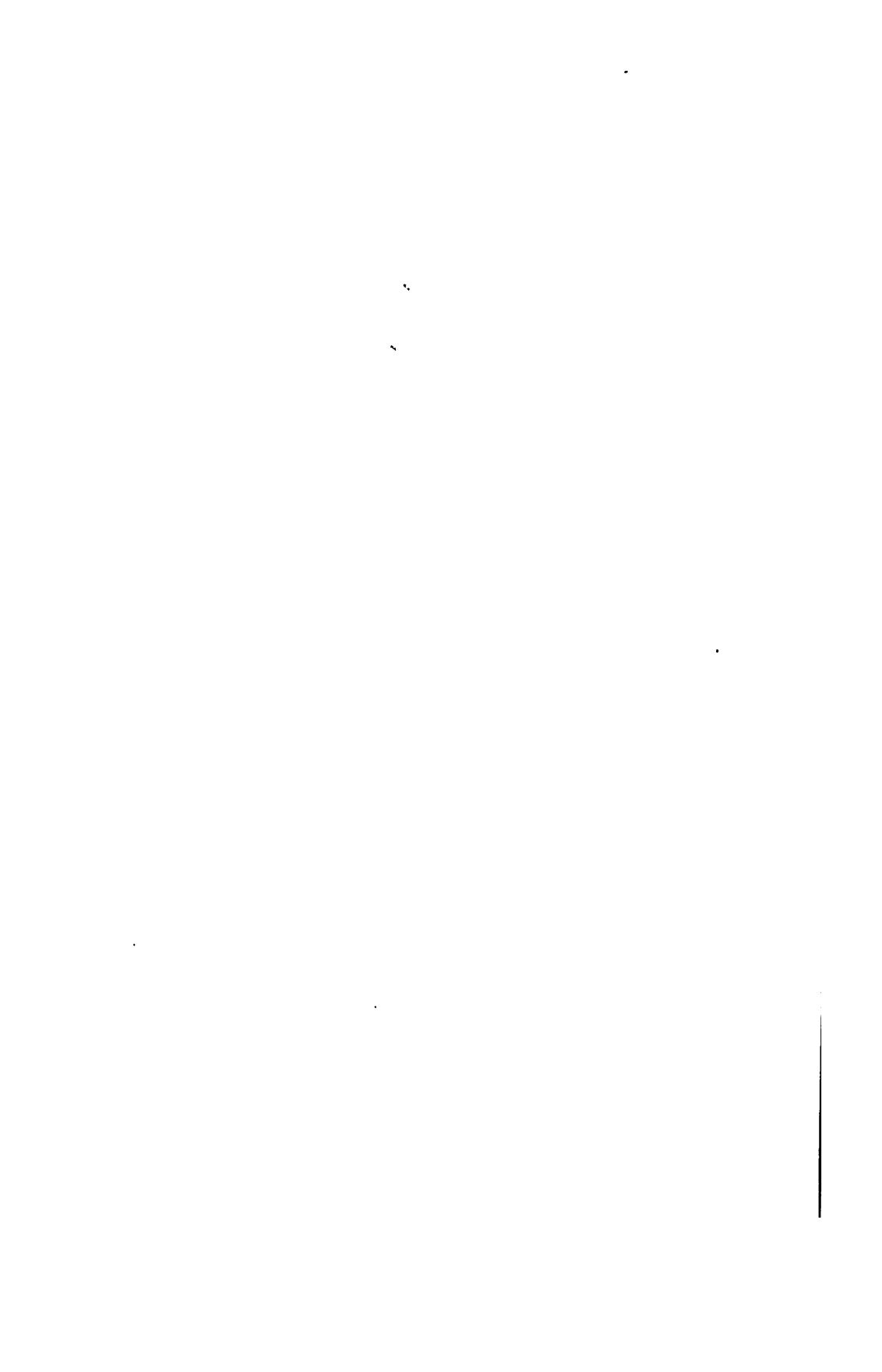
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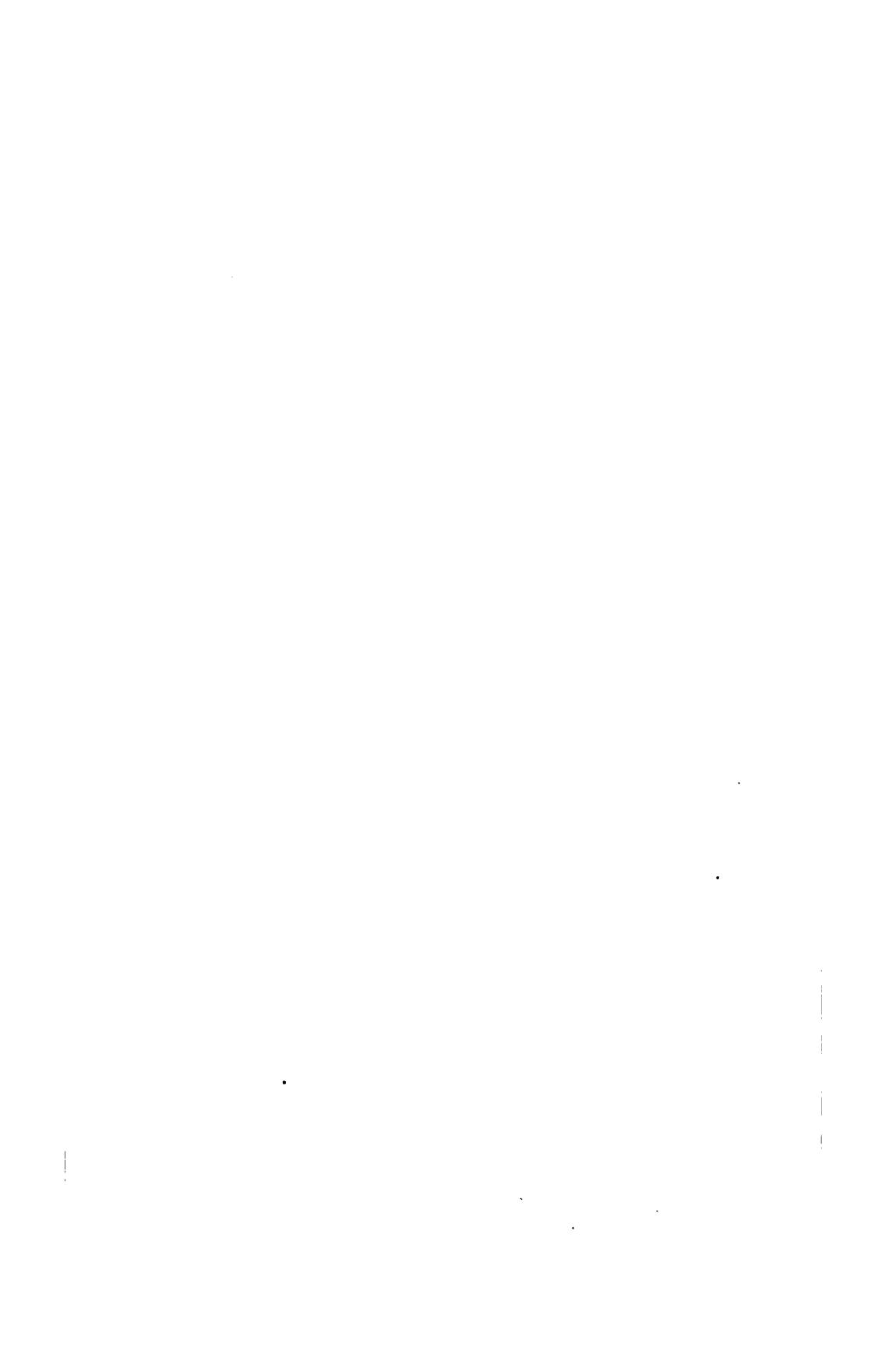
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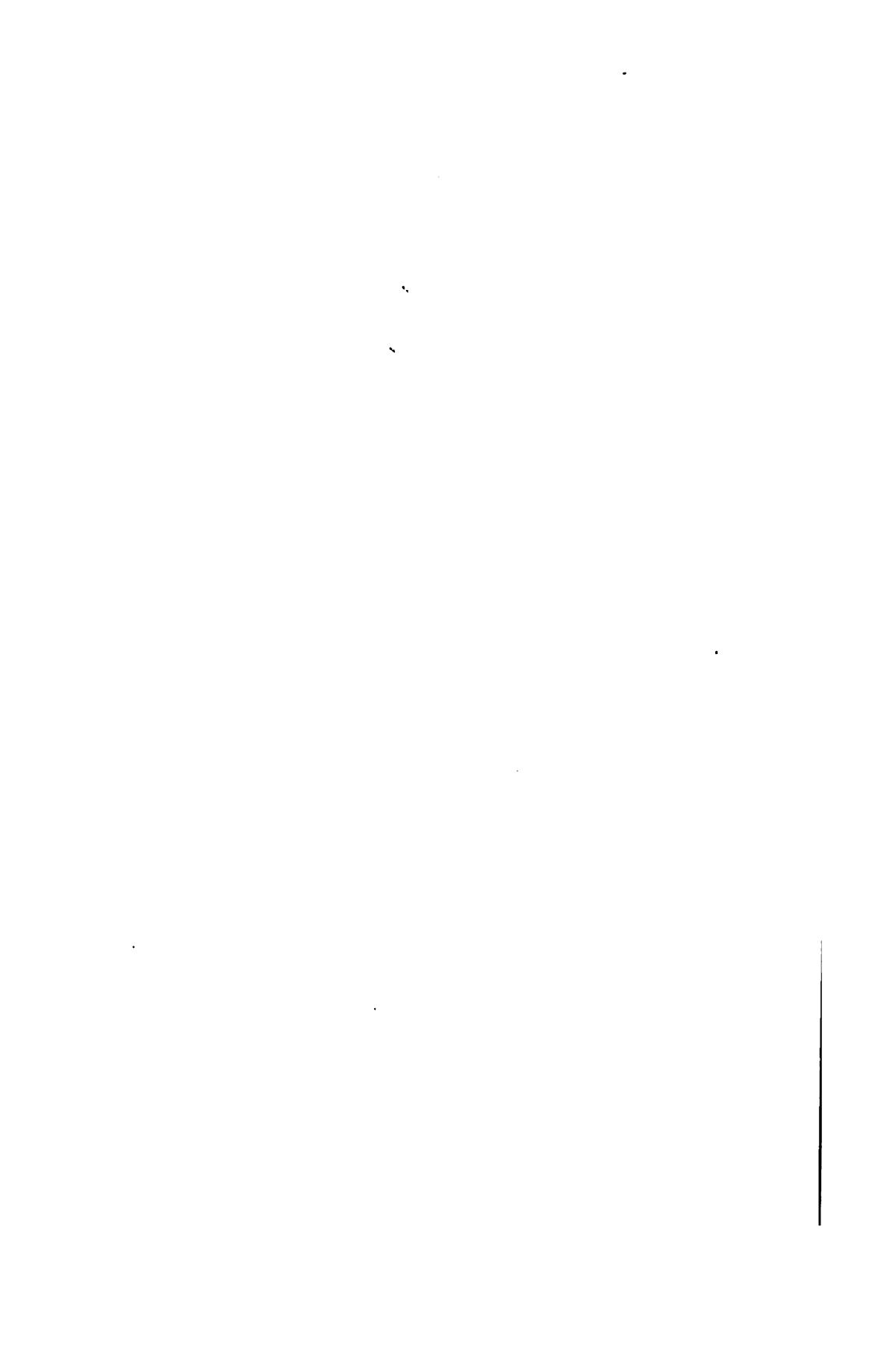
Alderman Fletcher's Charities to
Yarnton

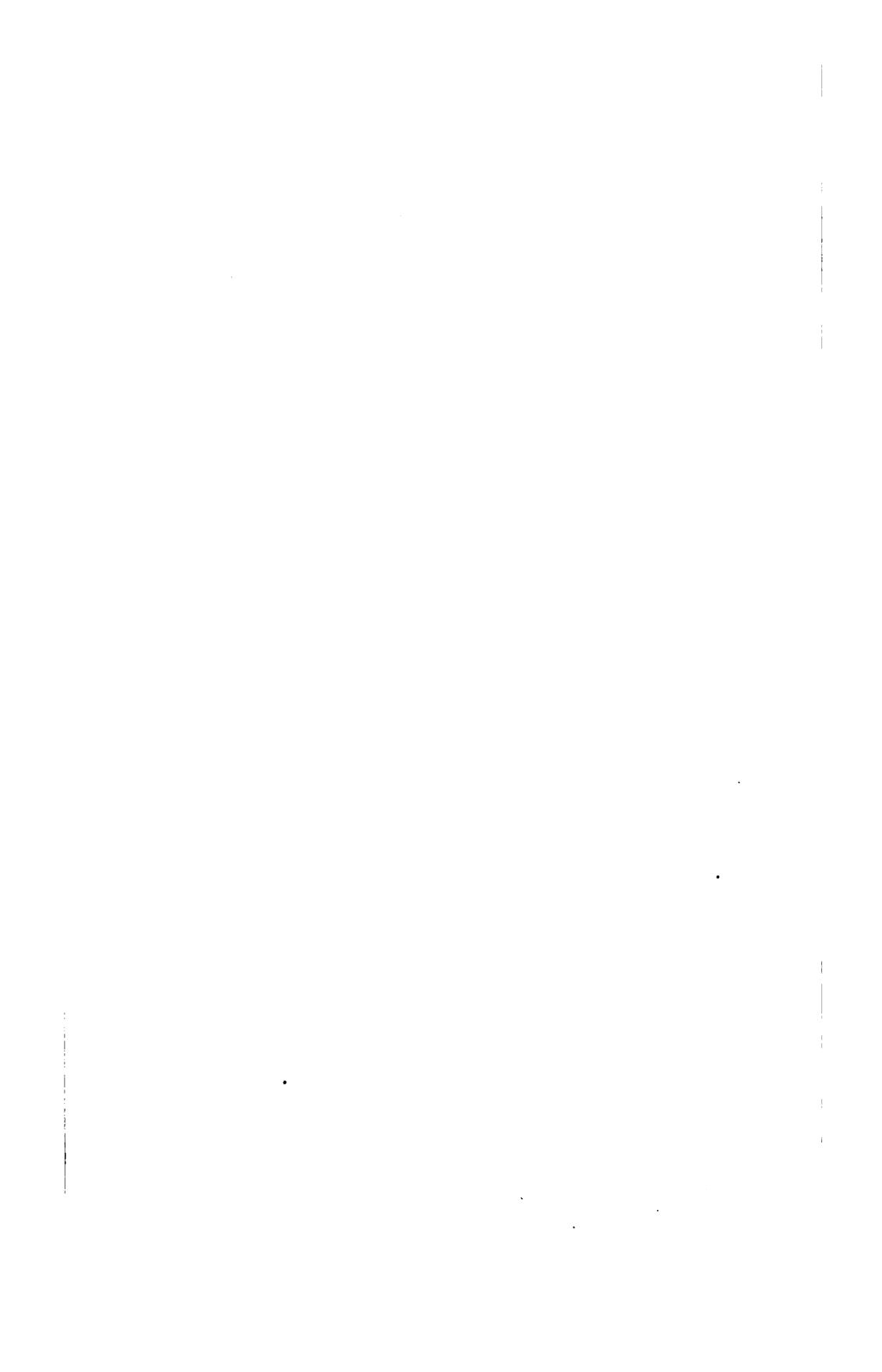
1843

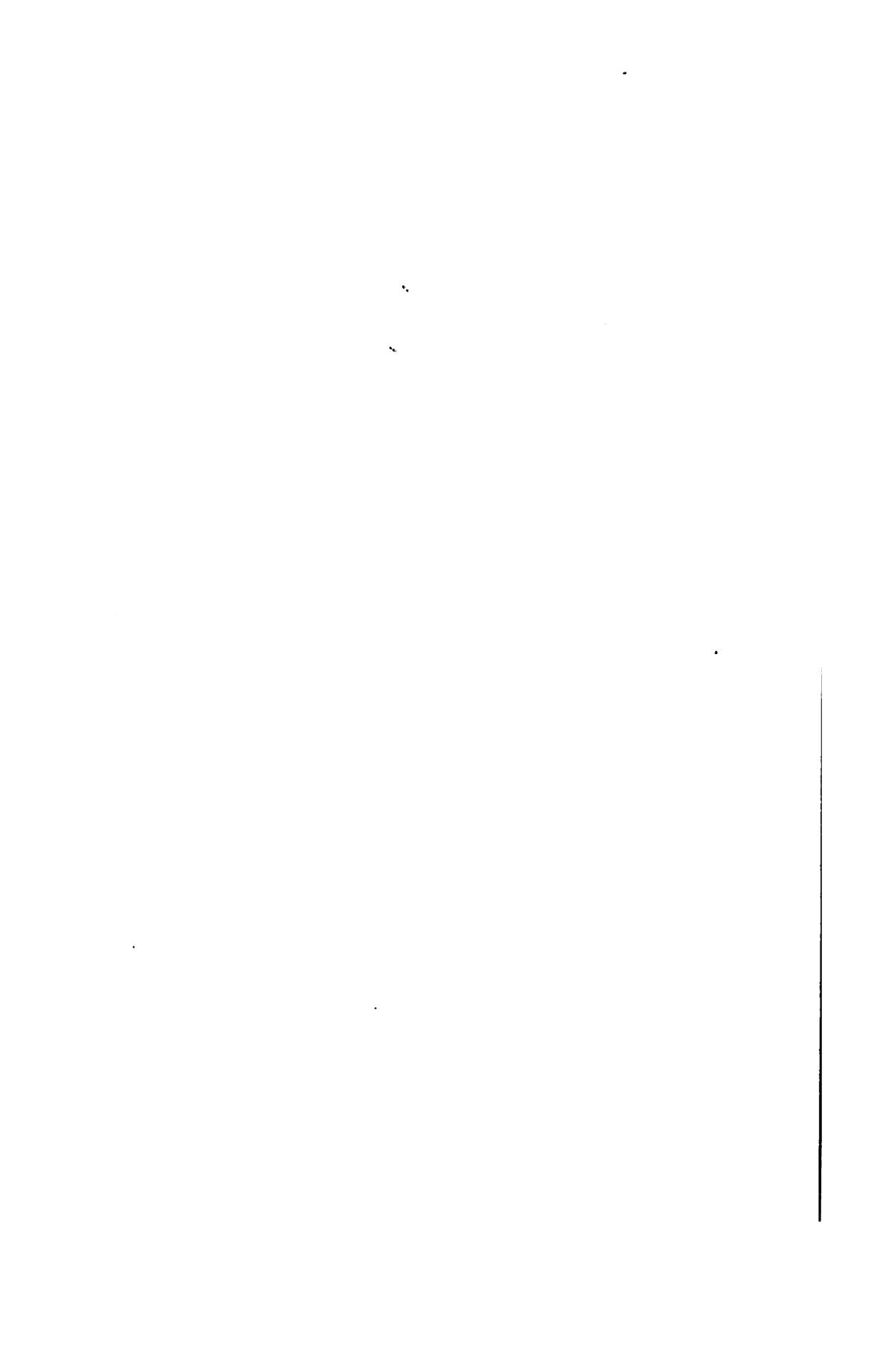














COPY
OF
THE DEED OF TRUST
DEPOSITED IN
THE PARISH CHEST.

March 22, 1824.

WHEREAS WILLIAM FLETCHER, one of the Aldermen of the City of Oxford, hath by a Deed, dated the 5th day of February, 1823, given to the City of Oxford a sum of Money for various purposes, to be disposed of yearly on St. Thomas's day by the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Assistants, Bailiffs, and Town Clerk of the said City; amongst which is a Donation of THIRTY POUNDS to the Parish of Yarnton, in the County of Oxford, as follows :

And upon this further Trust, that the said Mayor, Bailiffs, and Commonalty, and their successors, do and shall also, by and out of the said Dividends, Interest, and Produce, pay yearly and every year on the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle for ever *to the Vicar and Churchwardens for the time being* of the Parish

of Yarnton, in the County of Oxford, the Sum of THIRTY POUNDS, to be by them applied and disposed of yearly and every year, for ever, in manner following: that is to say,

TEN POUNDS thereof to be expended in Meat and Bread, to be, by and under the direction of the said Vicar and Churchwardens of Yarnton for the time being, distributed on Christmas Day amongst the Poor Inhabitants of Yarnton.

FIVE POUNDS to be expended on the Anniversary of the Burial of the said WILLIAM FLETCHER, in Yarton Church, in Bread and Cakes, in the manner and proportions following: that is to say, FOUR POUNDS in Bread, to be distributed, *in like manner as last aforesaid*, amongst the Poor Inhabitants for the time being of the said Parish of Yarnton: and the remaining Twenty Shillings in Cakes, to be distributed *in like manner* amongst the Children of the said Poor Inhabitants.

TWO POUNDS, farther part of the said THIRTY POUNDS, to be paid annually to the Parish Clerk of Yarnton aforesaid, for the time being, as an Annual Rent or recompense for the use of such part of the Dwelling House lately built by the said WILLIAM FLETCHER at

Yarnton for the residence of the said Parish Clerk for the time being, wherein the Parish School of Yarnton aforesaid now is, or hereafter shall be, kept.

EIGHT POUNDS, further part of the said THIRTY POUNDS, to be paid on the Anniversary of the Burial of the said WILLIAM FLETCHER, to the Parish Clerk aforesaid for the time being, who, in consideration thereof, is hereby directed and required *to summon the said Poor Inhabitants and Children to assemble on the said Anniversary yearly, to receive the said Bread and Cakes,* by tolling the great Bell of the Parish Church of Yarnton aforesaid as many Tolls as the said WILLIAM FLETCHER shall be years old at the time of his Decease.

And the sum of FIVE POUNDS, residue of the said THIRTY POUNDS, or so much thereof as shall from time to time be necessary in and about the repair and sustentation of the said Dwelling House lately built by the said WILLIAM FLETCHER at Yarnton aforesaid, for the residence of the Parish Clerk for the time being, and of the Buildings and Fences to the same belonging.

And the Residue and Surplus of the said last-mentioned FIVE POUNDS, if any, over

and above such necessary sustentations of the said Premises, to be paid and applied towards the support of the Parish School in the said Parish of Yarnton, *at the discretion of the said Vicar and Churchwardens for the time being.*

Memorandum.

Should it at any time happen, that the Parish Clerk of Yarnton should require for his own use that part of his House which is used as the Parish Schoolroom, then it is my wish, that the TWO POUNDS, which are directed to be paid to him as a recompense, shall in the stead thereof be paid towards the Rent of some other House or Room to any person of Yarnton who may be willing to let the same for the purposes of the said School. But should the said School be altogether discontinued, then I request that the said TWO POUNDS may be paid to Two Poor Women, resident in and belonging to the said Parish of Yarnton, annually on St. Thomas's Day.

And further, in the event of the said School being discontinued as aforesaid, it is my desire, that the Surplus of the within-mentioned FIVE POUNDS, (if any,) over and above the necessary repairs and sustentations of the House and Pre-

mises for the Residence of the Parish Clerk as
within mentioned, may be paid to Two Poor Men,
belonging to and resident in the said Parish of
Yarnton, annually on St. Thomas's Day.

Witness my Hand, this Second Day of April,
1823.

W. FLETCHER.

Signed in the
presence of
JOSEPH PHILLIPS.



DIRECTIONS
FOR REGULATING THE DISTRIBUTION OF
ALDERMAN FLETCHER'S
CHARITY MONEY.

Yarnton, Jan. 17, 1835.

SOME irregularities having occurred in the distribution of ALDERMAN FLETCHER's Bread and Meaton Christmas-day, and Bread and Cakes on his Burial-day Jan. 4th; it has appeared to us fit and proper to lay down the following DIRECTIONS to guide and govern those Distributions in future, intending thereby to secure the exact performance of those things which were wished and intended by the ALDERMAN in his Will and Testament.

I. None but *the Inhabitants, the poor Inhabitants*, of Yarnton are to partake of his Christmas Gifts. He was wont to observe this rule himself, when in his lifetime he gave Bread, Meat, and Cakes, to the Poor of Yarnton: and in his Will it is expressly said, that the poor *Inhabitants*, that is, the In-dwellers of the Parish, are to be the partakers of his Charity.

Poor Parishioners dwelling out of the Parish are not to partake of these Gifts ; and if any thing be given to them, it is given wrongfully, and against the intentions of the Testator, and to the injury of the Resident Poor ; for which they might not only complain to the Trustees, but seek redress by demanding the return of as much Money as had been wrongfully applied in providing Bread, Meat, and Cakes for the out-of-town Poor.

II. On Christmas-day, care must be taken that Bread as well as Meat be distributed : the only discretion on this head which is vested in the Vicar and Churchwardens is, that they may settle according to the best of their judgments the proportions of each.

III. If the Alderman's Burial-day, Jan. 4, fall on a Sunday, it is our opinion that the Bread and Cakes should be distributed in the Yarnton Aisle or Church Porch, first the Bread, and afterwards the Cakes, but always on the day appointed, Jan. 4th, Sunday or not.

IV. As to the Cakes, such Children only should partake of them as are old enough to come to the Church-door and take them ; they must be old enough to walk.

V. It seems to us fit and proper, that in keeping the yearly accounts of the ALDERMAN's Charities, entries should be made of the number of pounds of Meat distributed, and the

number of persons who partook of it, and the price per pound : these particulars have been sometimes entered, and sometimes omitted ; but it will be best, that is, most satisfactory, to enter them always. So too as to the Bread distributed on Christmas-day and Jan. 4th, entries should be made of the number of Poor Inhabitants who have partaken of it, and how many pennyworths of Bread fell to the share of each.

VI. Seeing that the ALDERMAN was a sincere and single-hearted Christian in all his thoughts, words, and actions, an exact observer of the Sabbath-day, and a devout attendant upon Public Worship in Church ; and seeing too that he expended during his lifetime considerable sums of money in new pewing Yarnton Church, and in providing foot-boards to keep the feet warm in Church, and in beautifying the House of God ; and lastly, seeing that he built a Schoolroom, and was always anxious that the poor Children should be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord ;—We are of opinion, that in distributing the Christmas Bread and Meat, as also the January Bread and Cakes, a distinction should be made between those who worship the Lord on the Sabbath-day in that Parish Church which he fitted up, and those who seldom or never enter it, and those too who live the lives of heathens, altogether neglecting the worship of God on the day of His appointment.

We farther think, that, in accordance with the principles and practice of him who faithfully served his God, and walked in holiness of life, a distinction should be made between scandalous livers, and those who live virtuous and Christian lives. And that in respect of Children, the bad should be distinguished from the good, to the intent that sin and wickedness may not receive encouragement, by sharing with the good and virtuous the good things provided by the Charity of the late ALDERMAN FLETCHER.

In stating these to be our opinions, we do not mean that small offences, or casual errors, should operate to the exclusion of those who commit them; it is not our desire or design to be extreme to remark what is amiss, or to recommend severity of judgment to those who may follow us in the discharge of these duties: all we mean is, that it seems to us to be against the laws of God, as well as against the known principles, purposes, and practice, of ALDERMAN FLETCHER, to bestow upon the sabbath-breaker, the daring hardened sinner, and the forsaker of God's worship in the Parish Church, the same parts or portions of his Bounty, as are bestowed upon the pious and the praiseworthy.

To conclude: it is recommended, that in making out the Lists of the year, all persons, (males or females, boys or girls,) whose conduct during the preceding year has been wicked

according to those measures of wickedness which have been above described, be dropped or left out of the Charity-Lists.

VAUGHAN THOMAS, Vicar.

JAMES OSBORN, } Churchwardens.
THOMAS KIRBY, }

Yarnton, Jan. 17, 1835.

Oxford, Nov. 25, 1835.

The above Rules or Principles for regulating the Distribution of ALDERMAN FLETCHER'S Charity are approved by us the Trustees under his Will.

R. WOOTTEN, Mayor.

H. PARSONS, Alderman.

J. LOCK, Alderman.

T. ENSWORTH, Alderman.

T. WYATT, Alderman.

(Copy.)

From Thomas Robinson, Esq. to Rev. V. Thomas.

Dear Sir,

At last I have met with Mr. Alderman Wyatt, and he has signed the Book, and it is completed I hope as you wish.

You would do me a kindness if you would call at the Old Bank on one of your mornings' walks, as a circumstance has occurred which I think you should be made acquainted with.

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) THOMAS ROBINSON.

High Street, Thursday Morn.



